

From the ornithological notebook (Croatia)

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis*

Travniški vrabec – skupaj je bilo prešteti 117 parov travniških vrabcev na otoku Pagu med 27 in 29.5.2007: Dinjiška (UTM WK11) – 21 parov, Vlašići (UTM WK10) – 50 parov, Stara Vas (UTM WK11) – 5 parov, Caska (UTM VK93) – 2 para, Vidalići (UTM VK93) – 2 para, Kustići (UTM VK93) – 15 parov, Zubovići (UTM VK92) – 15 parov, Metajna (UTM WK02) – 2 para, Stara Novalja (UTM VK83) – 5 parov

The Spanish Sparrow was first recorded on the island of Pag (Kolansko blato) in 1959 [IGALFFY, K. (1980): Prilog poznavanju ptica otoka Paga. – *Larus* 31/32: 55–89]. Since the 1990s, it has been breeding regularly on the island (Gajac, Kolana, Novalja, Pag), the number of nesting pairs reaching a few hundred. [DENAC, K. & DENAC, D. (2002): Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*. – *Acrocephalus* 23: 105., LUKAČ, G. (2004): About the widening of the range and the status of the Spanish Sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis*) in Croatia at the beginning of the 21st century. – *Paklenički zbornik* 2: 113–122]. During our field surveys carried out on the island of Pag between 27–29 May 2007, a total of about 117 pairs of Spanish Sparrows were counted: Dinjiška (UTM WK11) – 21 pairs, Vlašići (UTM WK10) – 50 pairs on the building “Zavičaj - kulturno prosvjetni centar i odmaralište Hrvata u Mađarskoj”, Stara Vas (UTM WK11) – 5 pairs, Caska (UTM VK93) – 2 pairs, Vidalići (UTM VK93) – 2 pairs, Kustići (UTM VK93) – 15 pairs, Zubovići (UTM VK92) – 15 pairs, Metajna (UTM WK02) – 2 pairs, Stara Novalja (UTM VK83) – 5 pairs. Mihelič reported on Eleonora’s Falcon *Falco eleonora* pursuing Spanish Sparrows at Kolansko blato [MIHELIČ, T. (2004): Eleonora’s Falcon *Falco eleonora*. – *Acrocephalus* 25: 98.], whereas we have observed a Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* catching a Spanish Sparrow on 27 May 2007 at Vlašići.

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